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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 09//

TO GOMPERT/HORG FOR THE SECRETARY

UNCLAS VIA BLACK PATCH WH50119

TOHAK 09

THE NEW YORK TIMES - FEB. 10

QUESTIONS ON A COLUMN
TO THE EDITOR:

FREUD WROTE TO THOMAS MANN: " MAY I IN THE NAME OF COUNTLESS
OF YOUR CONTEMPORARIES GIVE EXPRESSION TO THE FAITH THAT YOU
WILL NOT DO OR SAY SOMETHING COWARDLY OR LOW - THE WORDS OF
A WRITER ARE LIKE ACTIONS - AND THAT YOU, IN TIMES WHICH TEND
TO CONFUSE JUDGMENT, FIND THE RIGHT WAY AND SHOW IT TO OTHERS."

IT IS A MATTER OF GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT WE MAY FACE AN
UPHEAVAL OF OUR SOCIETY OR EVEN WAR IF WE DON'T SUCCEED
IN OVERCOMING RECESSION AND INFLATION IN A FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

AND IN SUCH PERILOUS TIMES, WILLIAM SAFIRE DARES TO IMPLY
THAT OUR SECRETARY OF STATE ACTS IN COLLUSION WITH A POTENTIAL
ENEMY AND IS IN CONTROL OF OUR PRESIDENT (COLUMN FEB. 3).

I HAVE ENJOYED MANY OF MR. SAFIRE'S PREVIOUS ESSAYS, OFTEN
ADMIRING HIS KNOWLEDGE, WIT AND BRILLIANT DEFINITIONS, BUT
WITH ALL ALLOWANCE FOR THE TRADITIONALLY ADVERSARY PRESS/
GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIP, I'D LIKE TO ASK WHETHER THE "RABBIT PUNCH"
ESSAY WAS " FIT TO PRINT" OR A SERIOUS DISSERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY.

ERICH LEYENS
REGO PARK, N.Y., FEB. 4, 1965

THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED BY THE TIMES'S SIX COLUMNISTS, AS WELL
AS BY ALL OTHER WRITERS ON THE OP-ED PAGE, ARE ENTIRELY THEIR
OWN. THE VIEWS OF THE NEW YORK TIMES AS SUCH ARE PRESENTED
EXCLUSIVELY ON THE EDITORIAL PAGE. -- EDITOR, THE TIMES.
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*****WH5R COMMENT*****

SECFILE,JANKA

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